

# SHORTHAND REPORTING

March 24, 2006

# FILED

*Deanne L. Camarero*

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF SHORTHAND REPORTING

IN THE MATTER OF THE  
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF  
THE CERTIFICATE OF

DEBORAH PATRICK, C.S.R  
CERTIFICATE NO. 30XI001500000

TO PRACTICE SHORTHAND REPORT -  
ING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER  
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter came before the New Jersey State Board of Shorthand Reporting ("Board") upon information that the respondent Deborah Patrick, C.S.R, has failed to cooperate with the Board, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), N.J.A.C. 13:43-7.1(a) and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.3. Based upon information received and which the Board has reviewed, the following findings are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a certified shorthand reporter in the State of New Jersey and has been a certificate holder at all times relevant hereto.
2. In or about August 2004, the Board of Shorthand Reporting initiated a random audit of renewal applications for the 2002-2004 period, asking those randomly selected certificate holders to submit proof with regard to the satisfaction of continuing education requirements for the biennial renewal period, i.e. fifteen (15) credits of continuing education. A letter, dated August 4, 2004, was sent to the respondent advising her that she was selected to participate to the audit. This letter was

sent to the respondent, via certified and regular mail, to her last known address of record of:

340 Ninth Avenue  
Lindenwold, New Jersey 08021

A copy of the August 4, 2004 correspondence and the certified mail receipt are attached herein as Exhibit "A."

3. In a correspondence dated September 1, 2004, the respondent advised the Board that she had completed a total of seven (7) continuing education credits as of August 23, 2004. However, the respondent indicated in this letter that she would not complete the remaining required continuing education credits for the 2002-2004 biennial period because she was "resigning her position to practice stenography due to personal incidents." A copy of this correspondence are attached herein as Exhibit "B."

4. The Board, at its September 20, 2004 meeting, reviewed the respondent's September 2004 letter and granted her an extension, until December 31, 2004, to complete courses in order to comply with its continuing education statutes and regulations. This action was memorialized in an undated letter from the Board office to the respondent at her last known address listed above. To date, the respondent has failed to comply with the Board's directives. A copy of the Board's correspondence are attached herein as Exhibit "C."

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Respondent has failed to cooperate with the Board's August and September 2004 directives to furnish it with proof that she has met and completed the continuing education requirements for the biennial renewal period of 2002-2004 in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:43-7.1(a) and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.3.

2. Respondent is subject to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), failure to comply

with the provisions of an act or regulation administered by the Board, which constitutes grounds for suspension or revocation of any certificate, registration or license, and grounds for sanction pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

### **DISCUSSION OF FINALIZATION**

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline, provisionally suspending respondent's certificate to practice shorthand reporting in the State of New Jersey, was entered on September 6, 2005, and a copy served on respondent. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The respondent submitted a written correspondence, dated September 30, 2005 in response to the Provisional Order, for Board consideration. In this response, the respondent advised that she had retired from the practice of shorthand reporting. She further expressed some dissatisfaction with the field of court reporting and suggested that once these issues were resolved she would be interested in reactivating her certificate. Moreover, the respondent requested that her reporting certificate be placed in a retired or inactive status, as authorized by N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.3, and requested that the preliminarily imposed civil penalty of \$1,000.00 be dismissed. However, the respondent failed to produce any information or documents which revealed that she had completed the required continuing education credits for the 2002-2004 licensure period in which she held an active certificate.

Respondent's submissions were reviewed by the Board at its November 14, 2005, meeting. Based upon the reviewed submissions, the Board determined that, despite proof that the respondent had received the Provisional Order, the respondent had failed to satisfy the continuing education requirements of N.J.S.A. 45:15B-3.1 and N.J.A.C. 13:43-7.1(a). Moreover, the Board found that the respondent had failed to provide any compelling reasons why the preliminary findings detailed in the September 6, 2005 Provisional Order should be vacated. Additionally, the Board concluded that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. However, the Board voted to modify the Provisional Order and grant the respondent's request that her shorthand reporting certificate be placed on inactive status.


**THEREFORE, IT IS ON THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF March 2006,**

**ORDERED THAT:**

1. Respondent Deborah Patrick, C.S.R., is hereby formally reprimanded for her failure to cooperate with the Board's directives and furnish the Board with proof of her compliance with the continuing education requirements for the 2002-2004 certificate biennial renewal period.
2. Respondent's certificate to practice shorthand reporting in the State of New Jersey is hereby placed on inactive status, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.3(b), effective on the entry of this Final Order. If and when the respondent seeks to reactive her certificate to active status, she shall be required to complete the missing eight (8) continuing education credits for the 2002-2004 biennial period in addition to the credits required for reactivation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:7.2 and any and all applicable regulations.
3. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00, pursuant to the mandates of N.J.S.A. 45:1-25, for violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), N.J.A.C. 13:43-7.1(a) and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.3.. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order made payable to

the State of New Jersey and shall be submitted to Dianne L. Tamaroglio, Executive Director of the State Board of Shorthand Reporting, at 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Post Office Box 45019, Newark, New Jersey 07101, within thirty (30) days from the date this Order is finalized.

4. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order or remit any and all payments required by this Order will result in the filing of a certificate of debt and may result in subsequent disciplinary proceedings for failure to comply with an Order of the Board.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF SHORTHAND REPORTING  
By:   
MARIANNE CAMMAROTA, C.S.R.  
President